Research Manager
REACH-Cities

Role: Research Manager
Employer: Cities, Health, and Active Transportation Research Lab (Meghan Winters), Simon Fraser University
Work location: Simon Fraser University (Burnaby), flexibility for work from home/ other sites, some local travel may be required
Status: 0.5-1.0 full-time equivalent (for discussion; additional hours may support other CHATR activities)
Contract duration: 1 year, with anticipated renewal for future years (up to 6)
Salary: Commensurate with experience
Start date: Reviewing applications starting April 4, 2022; open until filled.

There is flexibility within the role laid out here. We value curiosity and aptitude as we build out this team. If the role doesn't describe you exactly but you feel you are well suited to this opportunity, we encourage you to reach out.

Cities, Health, and Active Transportation Research Lab (REACH-Cities Team)

The Research and Action for Healthy Cities (REACH-Cities) project is a new research program supported by Dr. Meghan Winters’ CIHR Applied Public Health Research Chair. The 6-year program of work aims to advance research, tools, and partnerships that increase the gender equity in our cities. The primary partner is the city of Surrey. More detail here: https://chatrlab.ca/reach-cities/.

The REACH-Cities program focuses on how cities can welcome and support people of all genders—especially those historically overlooked within city planning based on age, race, income, or ability. REACH-Cities aims to identify practical ways to incrementally embed equity considerations into city planning processes. It is responsive to the needs of our partners and adopts community-engaged research methods to address urgent questions and timely opportunities.

The research of REACH-Cities explores the implementation and impacts of population health interventions such as policies related to municipal transportation or community planning policies, changes to the built environment such as new rapid transit and bicycle facilities, or programs that support social connections and physical activity. The program is comprised of three connected themes of work:

1. Population Health Intervention Research: generating new knowledge on the implementation and impacts of healthy cities interventions.

2. Methods and Tools for Intersectoral Action: developing and applying novel approaches for integrating gender equity into decision-making in local, national, and international settings.

3. Training for Healthy Cities: fostering a generation of changemakers, equipped with the expertise to catalyze action toward cities that promote health and health equity for all people.
The role: REACH-Cities Research Manager

We're looking for a Research Manager to join for the launch and development of the REACH-Cities program. This person will work very closely with Meghan Winters, as well as with partners in Surrey and a team of researchers and trainees working to advance equity in cities. The applicant will work under general supervision and will exercise initiative and manage priorities with respect to deadline and workload planning. They will be supported by colleagues with the Cities, Health, and Active Transportation Research Lab and collaborating research groups.

Responsibilities

- Coordinate the REACH-cities project
- Develop and implement project-wide organizational structures and processes
- Enhance linkages between all members and partners of the research program
- Coordinate research, training, and knowledge mobilization efforts
- Grow intersectoral partnerships locally and nationally, and liaise with external partners (e.g., the Public Health Agency of Canada, CIHR, and the National Collaborating Centres for Public Health)
- Liaise with SFU research supports (accounting, research services, ethics, Faculty of Health Sciences administration) to address project needs
- Prepare and run meetings and events, both virtually and in person
- Lead project management, including ethics applications, budgets, and managing recruitment
- Write and design content for website, blogs, partner communication, and grant proposals to advance the project.

Requirements

- Master's degree in a relevant field (Public Health, Planning, Gender studies, Transportation, etc.)
- Excellent organizational, problem-solving, and conflict management skills
- Excellent interpersonal, communication (both oral and written) and presentation skills
- Excellent project management and event planning skills
- Ability to exercise mature judgment, initiative, diplomacy, and tact

Assets

- Ability to conduct quantitative and/or qualitative analyses
- Data visualization and graphic design skills
- Interest and experience in community-engaged research
- Knowledge or lived experience in the City of Surrey
- Interest and experience working in the healthy cities domain

Please direct inquiries and/or submit a cover letter and a CV to Dr. Meghan Winters at mwinters@sfu.ca with “REACH-Cities” in the subject line. Simon Fraser University is committed to employment equity and diversity, and we welcome applications from all qualified individuals including racialized individuals, Indigenous Peoples, persons with disabilities, people of all sexual orientations and gender identities, and other social identities who historically may not be well-represented in academic or urban planning contexts. Review of applications will begin April 4, 2022 and continue until the position is filled.